GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3708
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2002
RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN PUNNOL
A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a rail accident in Punnol, Thalassery in Kannur district on the manned level crossing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to avoid recurrence of such accidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) to (c): A statement is attached.

STATEMENTREFERREDTO IN REPLY TOPARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARREDQUESTION NO.3708 ASKED BY SHRI A.P ABDULLAKUTTY TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.08.2002 REGARDING RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN PUNNOL

(a): Yes, Sir. On 27.06.2002 at 08.54 hrs. 6345 Netravati Expressdashed against a road vehicle at Manned level crossing No.224 between Tellicherry and Mahe stations of Palghat Division of Southern Railway. As a result, one person got killed and another injured.

(b): The accident is being inquired into by the Commissioner of Railway Safety/Southern Circle, and his inquiry report is awaited.

(a) Following steps are taken to avoid recurrence of accidents at level crossings :-

(i) Manned Level Crossings having very heavy traffic density are progressively interlocked with signals on a planned basis.

(ii) Telephones are also being gradually provided at all manned level crossing gates.

(iii)Surprise checks, night inspections and periodic safety drives are regularly conducted to check the alertness of gatemen.

(iv) Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/removal from service is imposed on staff held responsible for causing accidents.

(v) Special Drives are launched to identify errant road users at Unmanned Level Crossings in co-ordination with Transport Authorities.

(vi) Joint Ambush Checks with civil authorities are conducted to nab errant road vehicle drivers under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Railways Act, 1989.

(vii)Audio-visual publicity campaigns are conducted to educate road users on how to negotiate a crossing safely.